MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): May I know the number of letters he has to write in a year?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot say that now. There was recently a Government order which increased his work considerably. Under that order, he must be in charge of the Government clocks, the clocks in the Palace and other institutions, the pianos, etc.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): What will be the percentage of increase roughly?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is no one at all to attend to the work now. It is not a question of increase. He has got his establishment pay to be drawn; his contingent account has to be kept. All that he has to do now.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Is it very difficult to get photographers who know reading and writing?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): But there are men already there.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): What is the pay of the Assistant?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Assistant Photographer gets Rs. 20-30 and the Mechanic gets Rs. 15. The demand made is a small one. The clerical work must be done by somebody. I would request the House to pass this demand.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): Will the clerk have work enough for five days in a month?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): He will have some work every day, not necessarily five days in the month.

MR. K. J. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): I oppose the motion. It is admitted that he was managing the affairs for the last several years and the Chief Secretary has not shown whether there is any real necessity for this.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): I am for the demand, but not for the identical grounds mentioned by Mr. George but as relief of unemployment to that extent. I support it.

PRESIDENT: I put the demand to the vote of the House.

The motion was carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXIII—MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 3,000 under Demand XXIII—Miscellaneous Items. This provision is asked for to meet the expenditure connected with the Unemployment Committee.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Is it to employ the unemployed and pay them?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I will explain. The Unemployment Committee was constituted some time ago in response to a resolution of this House. This Committee has not yet been given an establishment or any funds for the carrying on of its work.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery cum Peermade*): Has the Committee begun its work?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I believe the Committee has had one meeting.

Mr. Chandrasekharan, as President of the Committee, has asked for a Secretary on Rs. 125, per mensem, two clerks and a few peons for the management of his office and he has asked for a sum of Rs. 2,000 for the travelling allowance of the members and some money for contingent expenditure.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Was the proposal of the President subjected to any modification by the Government?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): All these demands came up to Rs. 6,312. The President expected that the Committee will have to sit for not less than one full year. The proposal was considered by the Government and the proposal now before this House is to give a grant of Rs. 3,000. The Government considered that the amount asked for the staff and for contingent and travelling allowances was rather excessive and they propose to grant a sum of Rs. 3,000 and ask the President to meet the expenditure of the Committee in consultation with the Committee. He will also be asked to finish the work within eight months because the Government think that one year is too long a time. This will be till the end of the vacation. That is why Rs. 3,000 is asked for. It includes the cost of the establishment, the expenditure relating to the travelling allowance and contingent expenses. The money will be spent in consultation with the Committee. Perhaps, the grant proposed is not sufficient. But I believe that the Committee will be able to manage with this sum. I hope the Council will have no objection to passing this demand.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Sir, from the way in which the demand was made in this House and from the gist of the argument advanced by Mr. George, I understand that the Unemployment Committee is a necessity; the President is Mr. Chandrasekharan; he has demanded Rs. 6,000, and that money will be spent only in consultation with the Committee. It is from the beginning to end a question of confidence. The President of the Committee has asked for a certain sum of money. But I think in all fairness the Government member should just show us in what way this is to be spent. What are the terms of reference to the Committee? Are they going to travel from one part of the country to another? We want some idea of the work before we are called upon to give the public money. If we feel satisfied that the sum is going to be made use of in a beneficial manner,

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we will not grudge even the sanctioning of Rs. 6,000. If Mr. Chandrasekharan or any authority thinks that the work would be carried on efficiently only with the aid of Rs. 6,000, why should we grudge the amount? We must proceed in some business-like manner. We must feel satisfied with the work that is going to be done and of the need for the money that is asked for. Here is a Committee. The President has asked for a certain amount. If we sanction it without going into the root of the question, it will look rather like a domestic business. More consideration ought to be shown to the members of this House. We want to know whether the Committee is going to be an itinerant one or one for the collection of evidence. Are they going to invite experts from outside? In what manner are they going to spend the travelling allowance? There must be sufficient justification for us to grant this sum. We are not here to say either 'aye' or 'no' to the demands made by the official members. We should not nod our heads just because the President has asked for the amount. I am not merely saying this in regard to this item. I also refer to the previous items. I believe it is all a question of confidence.

PRESIDENT: Does any other member wish to speak?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, it is true that Mr. Chandrasekharan asked for a sum of Rs. 6,000 and that the Government have now come to the Council for a grant of only Rs. 3,000. That is due to the fact, that when the Government placed this demand for discussion in the Finance Committe, the Committee considered that the estimate was excessive and suggested that it might be reduced to Rs. 3,000 and placed at the disposal of the President to be spent in consultation with the Committee.

The business of the Committee is explained in the G. O. under which it was constituted. For further details, the Government must receive proposals from the President and then alone will the Government be in a position to consider whether the Committee will have to travel and whether any evidence will be taken. We cannot answer that question definitely at present. The Committee has met only once and they intend to prepare a *questionnaire* and then begin the work.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Am I to understand that the demand for Rs. 3,000 was made without any scheme being submitted?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): A rough scheme was made out by the President. He wanted an establishment. He did not detail the full business of the Committee. To start with, he had to form an office; he wanted a Secretary, clerks and office furniture.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Is Mr. Chandrasekharan's report a confidential report?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is nothing confidential in the report.

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MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Has the Chief Secretary any objection to read the relevant portions of the report for the information of the House?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have already given the substance of the report. These are the relevant portions:

"The problem which the Committee has been asked to investigate is acknowledged to be of a very difficult and complex character. A moment's thought will convince any one of the many-sidedness of this problem and of its close dependence upon the educational, social and economic conditions of the State. For a sound investigation of the problem, of its nature, extent and causes and its remedies, a considerable amount of statistics and other information has to be collected and this would involve frequent references to and correspondence with most of the departments of Government. Correspondence with Banks, business and commercial firms and generally all employers of the labour of the educated classes and with the Unemployment Committee at Madras would also have to be carried on. The materials so collected should be arranged and prepared for the ready use of the Committee. It is proposed to prepare and send a *questionnaire* on unemployment to officials and non-officials, in fact to everyone who, in the opinion of the committee, may be in a position to throw light on any aspect of the problem. The analysis and classification of the answers received—two or three hundred in number—is another important item of work. It must be remembered that I have to conduct the work of the Committee in addition to my normal duties as Professor in the College and as Secretary of the Public Library. Further, a considerable part of the time that I can spare for the work of the Committee will be taken up in the study of the available literature on the subject. I may also point out that not being the head of a department unlike most presidents of committees, I have no office staff which I can make use of partly at least for the work of the Committee.

"In view of the considerations stated above, I propose the appointment of a Higher Grade First Class clerk on a pay of Rs. 125 whom I expect to be able to give me expert clerical assistance in carrying out the various items of work involved. He will also perform the duties of Secretary to the Committee and may be designated as such. The Unemployment Committee in Madras has, I believe, a full-time Secretary, an officer of the provincial civil service. As the members of our Committee, both official and non-official, are busy men, it will not be fair to throw on one of them the duties of Secretary. One of the important tasks of the Committee will be to hear gentlemen requested to appear before them, and if necessary to tour and take evidence in important centres. For taking full and complete reports of the proceedings of the Committee, a shorthand reporter, preferably a graduate, on Rs. 50 per month, is required.

"Two clerks one of whom is to be typist-clerk on Rs. 40 each per month and four peons on Rs. 9 each are also proposed.

"The staff as proposed will consist of:—

(1) A Higher Grade First Class clerk on Rs. 125 per month with the designation of 'Secretary to the Unemployment Committee'.

(2) A Shorthand reporter on Rs. 50 per month.

(3) Two clerks each on Rs. 40 per month (one of whom will be a typist-clerk).

(4) 4 peons on Rs. 9 per month."

Later on he suggested that he would require about Rs. 2,000 for travelling allowance and about Rs. 600 for contingencies, furniture and office expenses.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Committee be ready to start work soon after the grant is made?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I suppose so. The Committee has already sat once.

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MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Is the Committee to travel?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That has not been settled yet.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): What about the provisions regarding the travelling allowance?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The question whether there should be any provision for travelling allowance will be decided after the Committee has sat once or twice.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Even if there be provision for it, will the President be able to do travelling?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is the vacation time when he can travel.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Have the Government any idea as regards the salary to be paid to the Secretary?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Government have at present no idea. That question will be settled by the President in consultation with the Committee.

PRESIDENT: I hope Mr. A. K. Pillai does not wish to press his objection. I also take it that the House passes this demand.

The grant was made.

PRESIDENT: The House will now adjourn to meet again at 11-30 tomorrow morning.

The House adjourned at 5-10 P. M.

T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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